

CLAIMS

1. A float bath for producing glass by a float forming process, comprising a transport assembly for moving the float bath among a plurality of units.

2. A float bath according to claim 1, wherein the transport assembly comprises at least one wheel, at least one rail, or at least one roller.

3. A float bath according to claim 1, wherein the transport assembly comprises at least one wheel assembly and at least one jack assembly.

4. A float bath according to claim 3, wherein the at least one wheel assembly is a caster wheel and the at least one jack assembly comprises a leg forming a rack communicating with a gear formed integrally with a shaft.

5. A float bath according to claim 1, wherein the transport assembly comprises:
an undercarriage comprising:
 at least one support coupled to the float bath; and
 at least one rail coupled and orientated substantially perpendicular to the support;
a jack assembly comprising:
 at least one leg having a first end received within an aperture of the support and having an opposing end coupled to a foot wherein the leg forms a rack;
 at least one shaft coupled to the support and formed integrally with a gear communicating with the rack; and
a wheel assembly coupled to the rail.

6. A float bath according to claim 5, wherein the wheel assembly comprises a rigid or swivel caster wheel.

7. A float bath according to claim 1, wherein the float forming process comprises pouring molten glass onto a bed of a molten metal to create a glass ribbon, and drawing the glass ribbon to create a sheet of glass.

8. A float bath according to claim 2, further comprising at least two wheels.

9. A float bath according to claim 2, further comprising at least four wheels.

10. A float bath according to claim 1, wherein the glass is made from SiO_2 , B_2O_3 , Al_2O_3 , Li_2O , Na_2O , K_2O , BaO , ZnO , TiO_2 , La_2O_3 , or As_2O_3 , or combinations thereof.

11. A transport assembly according to claim 7, wherein the molten metal comprises tin.

12. A float bath according to claim 1, further comprising a portable float bath control system, comprising:

a control box positioned on a cart for positioning the control box proximate to the float bath.

13. An adapter for a float bath for producing glass by a float forming process and for delivering an amount of molten glass from a first furnace to the float bath wherein the adapter

is adjustable to receive molten glass from a plurality of glass melting furnaces each at a different location.

14. An adapter according to claim 13, comprising:

a base comprising at least one lift coupled to a platform; and

a carriage comprising at least one transport assembly coupled to a body wherein the carriage is coupled to the base in a manner allowing substantially parallel movement of the body with respect to the platform.

15. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the at least one transport assembly comprises at least one wheel, at least one rail or runner, or at least one roller.

16. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the at least one transport assembly comprises at least one wheel assembly.

17. An adapter according to claim 16, wherein the at least one wheel assembly comprises a caster wheel.

18. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the lift comprises a screw comprising a head; a plurality of mechanical fasteners; and a foot.

19. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the adapter further comprises a carriage-positioning member comprising a screw, which comprises a head formed integrally with a threaded shaft, and a plurality of mechanical fasteners.

20. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the transport assembly is at least one wheel.

21. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the carriage further comprises a first post formed integrally with the body, a lip pivotably mounted on the body, and a lip positioning member having a first end coupled to the first post and a second end coupled to the lip.

22. An adapter according to claim 21, wherein the lip positioning member comprises a screw comprising a head formed integrally with a threaded shaft, a threaded sleeve adapted to receive a portion of the threaded shaft, and a plurality of mechanical fasteners.

23. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the transport assembly comprises two wheels.

24. An adapter according to claim 14, wherein the transport assembly comprises four wheels.

25. An adapter according to claim 21, wherein the carriage further comprises a second post coupled to the body and a clamp adapted to release the lip in a conveniently fashionable manner for pivoting the lip with respect to the body.

26. An adapter according to claim 21, wherein the lip forms a spout.